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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/827,472	04/06/2001	John Tree	SONI-6400	6150
7590	02/03/2005		EXAMINER	
VALLEY OAK LAW 5655 SILVER CREEK VALLEY ROAD SUITE 106 SAN JOSE, CA 95138				MISKA, VIT W
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	2841

DATE MAILED: 02/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

CBW

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/827,472	TREE, JOHN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Vit W. Miska	2841	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-33 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

1. Claims 1-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

2. Each of the claims includes the recitation of "data marks" "wherein said data marks indicate a time and said data marks represent content that is broadcasted at said time". Content of a broadcast is not mentioned in the specification as data mark information which is stored when a button is actuated. The specification suggests at page 6, line 19 that the input data may be "time and date information of when the user operated first or second e-buttons..." There is no suggestion or support in the specification for the input data marks containing information other than the time and date when the input means were operated or for the data marks to represent broadcast content, as now claimed.

3. Applicant points out in the remarks that support for the objected language appears at page 5, lines 10-16 and page 6, line 12-16. However, these passages merely suggest that when a button is actuated on the watch marker device a music piece is marked. The manner of marking is not described in detail, other than to suggest that date and time are stored as one of the items of information when the button is actuated. Applicant has not pointed to any descriptive portions of the disclosure where support exists for the watch marker to have an inputting means for inputting data marks where the data marks "represent content that is broadcasted at said time".

4. Further, in applicant's prior application 09/401,103 (now U.S. Patent 6,578,047) referenced in this application as illustrative of e-marker technology, e-marker device 4 is described in the specification as storing only the time and date when buttons on the device are actuated. "When the user likes the broadcasted music piece, the user operates the assistance terminal 4 and stores the time information at that time into the assistance terminal 4." See col.4, lines 23-25. At col. 1, lines 46-46 "it has been assumed that the book marker 4 is a dedicated device for storing time information." After the time data is stored, device 4 communicates with a search engine to search a data base to then retrieve the title of the music piece and other identifying data. Thus, broadcast content is determined not from the e marker data marks, but from a

database storing broadcast information of radio or television stations corresponding to times of such broadcasts.

5. It is thus evident from the passages noted above that the data marks inputted into the watch marker device represent only time and date of actuation, not content of a broadcast.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vit W. Miska whose telephone number is 571-272-2108. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, K. Cuneo can be reached on 571-272-1957. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VM
1/25/2005



Vit Miska
Primary Examiner